

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 179853

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CY

SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT NO. 5: SITUATION IN CYPRUS; AS
OF 0600 EDT AUGUST 16

1. MILITARY SITUATION IN CYPRUS: THE TURKISH OFFENSIVE
CONTINUED THIS MORNING WITH A DAWN BOMBING RAID ON GREEK
CYPRIOT NATIONAL GUARD ARTILLERY POSITIONS ON THE WESTERN
EDGE OF NICOSIA. HEAVY FIGHTING WAS REPORTED IN THAT AREA
AND, AS OF 0915 CYPRUS TIME, UNFICYP HEADQUARTERS WAS IN
THE MIDDLE OF AN INTENSE FIRE FIGHT. THE UK HIGH COM-
MISSION AND THE ITALIAN EMBASSY HAVE EVACUATED THEIR

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OFFICES, BOTH OF WHICH ARE UNCOMFORTABLY CLOSE TO THE

COMBAT.

2. ELSEWHERE ON CYPRUS, THERE WERE CONFLICTING REPORTS ABOUT THE FATE OF FAMAGUSTA. UPI AND THE TURKISH PRESS ARE REPORTING THAT 4,000 TURKISH TROOPS SEIZED THE CITY LATE IN THE AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 15 AND THAT SUPPLY CONVOYS BEGAN MOVING INTO FAMAGUSTA IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF AUGUST 16. AN OFFICIAL TURKISH SPOKESMAN, HOWEVER, REFUSED TO ELABORATE ON AN AUGUST 15 MILITARY COMMUNIQUE WHICH SAID THAT TURKISH TROOPS HAD ENTERED THE SUBURBS OF FAMAGUSTA AND SURROUNDED THE CENTER OF THE CITY. ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM IT VISUALLY, UN OBSERVERS BELIEVE FAMAGUSTA TO BE IN TURKISH HANDS.

3. IN THE EASTERN SECTOR OF THE ISLAND, MOP-UP OPERATIONS ARE CONTINUING AS TURKISH FORCES MOVE NORTHEAST INTO THE KARPOS PENINSULA. IN THE WEST, TURKISH FORCES ARE MOVING TOWARD MORPHOU. UNFICYP BELIEVES THE TURKISH OBJECTIVE WILL BE LEFKA AND A LINK-UP WITH LIMINITIS AND KOFFINA, BOTH OF WHICH ARE HELD BY TURKISH CYPRIOT FORCES. THROUGHOUT CYPRUS, GREEK CYPRIOT RESISTANCE IS LIGHT, EXCEPT NEAR NICOSIA. RADIO BAYRAK (TURKISH) BROADCAST REPEATED WARNINGS THAT TURKISH AIRCRAFT WOULD STRIKE POPULATED AREAS UNLESS "ATROCITIES" AGAINST TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY STOPPED IMMEDIATELY. IN MID-MORNING AUGUST 16, TURKEY'S DEFENSE MINISTER TOLD REPORTERS THAT IT IS ONLY A MATTER OF HOURS BEFORE TURKEY WILL OBSERVE A CEASE-FIRE.

UN: THE SECURITY COUNCIL ISSUED ITS FOURTH CYPRUS CEASE-FIRE DEMAND AUGUST 15 AND ADOPTED AN AUSTRIAN RESOLUTION WHICH EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF RESPECT FOR THE UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE. BOTH MEASURES CARRIED WITHOUT OPPOSITION. THE SECURITY COUNCIL HAS SCHEDULED ANOTHER MEETING ON THE CYPRUS SITUATION FOR AUGUST 16.

5. GREECE: PRIME MINISTER KARAMANLIS TOLD THE GREEK PEOPLE AUGUST 15 THAT THE STRONG TURKISH POSITION ON CYPRUS AND THE ISLAND'S DISTANCE FROM GREECE MADE ARMED GREEK OPPOSITION ON CYPRUS IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT THE RISK

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OF WEAKENING THE DEFENSE OF GREECE ITSELF. KARAMANLIS DENOUNCED TURKEY AS A THREAT TO WORLD PEACE AND PLEDGED THAT "THE STRUGGLE WILL CONTINUE, AND USE WILL BE MADE OF EVERY EXPEDIENT DEMANDED BY THE HONOR AND THE INTEREST OF THE NATION".

6. IN A PRIVATE BRIEFING FOR GREEK LEADERS PRIOR TO HIS SPEECH, KARAMANLIS SAID THAT THE CAUSE OF CYPRUS WAS

LOST, AND THAT THE GREEK ARMED FORCES WERE UNPREPARED, INADEQUATELY EQUIPPED AND IN NO POSITION TO TAKE ON THE TURKS. KARAMANLIS WENT ON TO SAY THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED TO GIVE THE TURKS WHAT THEY WANT IN CYPRUS, I.E., 34 PERCENT OF THE ISLAND. ASKED ABOUT GREECE'S DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM MILITARY PARTICIPATION IN NATO, KARAMANLIS TOLD THE LEADERS THAT THIS WAS A PSYCHOLOGICAL MOVE INTENDED TO BOOST MORALE IN THE COUNTRY.

7. TURKEY: AFTER ANNOUNCING TO THE PRESS THAT A CEASE FIRE IS ONLY HOURS AWAY, TURKISH DEFENSE MINISTER ISIK MET WITH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT, FOREIGN MINISTER GUNES AND CHIEF TGS SANCAR. THE FOUR LEADERS THEN MET WITH

PRESIDENT KORUTURK AND IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WOULD MEET AT 12:30 P.M. (ANKARA TIME) ON AUGUST 16. KISSINGER

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